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THE OBSERVATOR.

More Remarks on the Advices from Catalonia.

From Saturday December the 1st, to Wednesday December the 5th, 1705.

Obſ. HOneſt *Country-man*, how doſt do? Art got out of thy *Merry* Humour? *Country-m.* No; nor never will. *Sorrow* and *Sadneſs* are baniſh'd from my *Domicill.* I am as Merry as the Maids, the Young things in Petticoats, that are ſure of Huſbands next *Chriſtmas.* Why, Maſter, this News ought to make every Body Merry. The poor *Memoraliſts*, indeed, they have loſt all their *Hopes*, and ſo are *Melancholy.* And in good Truth, Maſter, if the Earl of *Peterborough* had not carried the Day, you and I ſhould have taken their *Melancholy Poſt*, and ha' look'd as they do, confounded Soure, as if we had been Baptiz'd in *Vinegar.*

Obſ. What thou ſay'ſt is true. I am ſure nothing could have come nearer my Heart, in reſpect of the *Injury* a Diſappointment of that Nature would have brought to the *Publick*, and the *Diſreputation* it would have brought to that Noble Peer, and that Ligitimate, brave Son of the *Sea* employ'd in that Service.

I have, Honeſt *Country-man*, you know it full well, had an hundred Anxious Thoughts on this Expedition. 'Tis not convenient to tell the Reaſons of my *Fears* and *Doubts*; but 'tis well known that my *Fears* have ſtill been founded on *Probable Cauſes*; and what I have often *Feared*, has too often befallen this Nation. I can Heartily Thank God for this *Extraordinary Succeſs*, and I wiſh *All* Her Majeſties Good Subjects had a due Sence of this *Signal Mercy*, founded on like Reaſons with my ſelf, without which they cannot exert themſelves to a juſt degree of Thankfulneſs.

That Noble Lord, the Earl of *Peterborough*, who is the chief Leader in this *Sultry War*, has the greateſt Occaſion to Bleſs God for this *Succeſs*: In the firſt place, That God has made *Him* the Inſtrument. And in the ſecond place, That the Deſigns of *His* Enemies againſt him have been hereby fruſtrated; for had any croſs Providence render'd this Expedition abortive, the Deſign was to have laid it all to the Charge of that Noble Lord, and Sir *Cloudeſley Shovel*, and from thence to have maintain'd the Point, that no One of *their Party* (as they call *All True Engliſhmen*) ſhould ever afterwards be employ'd in the *Publick Service.*

I leave all Mankind to Judge of the *Vertue*, *Temper*, and *Inclination* of theſe Men, who can ſo *Heartily* Wiſh and Pray for the *Misfortunes* of the *Common Cauſe:* That had rather ſee *Europe* in a *Flame*, or *Drowned* in the *Blood* of its *Wretched Natives*; their own Country *Invaded*, *Ruin'd* and *Deſtroy'd*, *Themſelves* made a *Prey*, and their *Children Slaves* to Men of a Strange Language, rather than to have theſe *Evils* prevented by the *Courage* and *Conduct* of Men ſomewhat differing in Opinion with themſelves. To have Men Repine at our Succeſſes, ſhows as much of *Ill Nature*, as want of Grace and Judgment. 'Tis one Queſtion, Whether the *Proſpect* theſe Gentlemen have of *Another Government*, may'n't be the cauſe of their *Ill Will* to the Succeſs of *This*; but that being deny'd, and this granted, *That they are deſirous of the Succeſs of our Arms*; yet 'tis many ways Evident that they are diſpleas'd with the Inſtruments Her Majeſty had made Choice of for the doing it; and that they had rather we had been Unſucceſsful in this Enterprize, than to have a Victory Accompliſh'd by ſuch Hands.

The King of *Spain*, in his Letter to Her Majeſty, commends the Choice of Her *General.* And indeed Her *General* has *Commended Her Choice* in ſuch a manner, as renders Her Wiſdom indiſputable; for his Valour, his Conduct, his Indefatigable Application to the Buſineſs of War, and all this Crown'd with Succeſs and Victory, is an Evidence even to Demonſtration.

I ſhall not compare Victories; I am Thankful to God and our Commanders for any Succeſſes; but our Troops carried to ſuch a diſtance, and reaping Lawrels in *Italian Fields*, extends the Glory of Her Majeſties Arms, even to the extream Pinions of the Wings of *Fame.*

Engliſh Valour has a long time been known and dreaded in *Germany* and the *Netherlands:* Before the Stains of *Gallick Blood* on the Theatre of *Mars* in *Flanders*, the Marks of the Immortal *WILLIAM*'s Proweſs and Valour, were waſh'd out, they were double dyed by the Valour of our Noble General, the Duke of *Marlborough.* *Fame* has no Occaſion to Sound its *Brazen Trumpet* to the Praiſe of *Britannick* Arms in theſe Countries, every Place, Province, Fortreſs or Sconce, bears ſome Marks of *Engliſh Valour.* No muſty Rolls of Antiquity need be ſearch'd over there for Antique Proofs. The Valour of our Troops is there but the Remembrance of a Day, the very Children can Liſp the *Praiſes* of our Arms, and their Parents *Fears* of them.

To Plough the Field of *Mars* in Countries leſs remote with *Engliſh* Swords, is indeed Glorious; but with our Swords to dig the Garden of the *World*, I mean *Italy*, at ſo great a diſtance, is an Extraordinary Addition to Her Majeſties Honour, and the Glory of Her Arms. The Honour of Princeſs is extended with their Conqueſts. Their Armies erect Triumphal Arches for 'em in *Foreign Lands*, and their Greatneſs is made Known by the Troops they ſend Abroad.

If we Conſider the Artifices have been made Uſe of to *Conceal* the *Wiſdom* of our *Queen*, the *Strength* of Her *Government*, the *Numbers* of Her *Troops* and Her *Ships*, we can't help conceiving our Advantage in having the World Undeceived at Once, by this Inſtance of *Engliſh Valour* in *Catalonia.*

The

The *Catalans*, and the People of *Vich*, have had ſtrange Stories told 'em of the *Weakneſs* of the *Engliſh Nation*, have been kept in the Intereſt of the Duke *D' Anjou*, by the Fabulous Stories, that *France* only could protect them; but at length we find their Eyes are open to behold a Superiour Power, and a greater Prince, and we find 'em all throwing themſelves at the Feet of Her *Britannick* Majeſty, Thankful for Favours, and Praying Protection.

The Conſequences of Victory to a Nation in Foreign Parts, are of much Advantage: A Victorious People are *Beloved* whilſt they are *Allies*, and *Dreaded* when they become *Enemies*. The Fame of the old *Roman* Valour was half a Conqueſt; many Provinces have ſubmitted to their Arms, without ſtriking a blow, being ſenſible of the Vanity of Oppoſition; and where a Nation has got a Reputation in War it muſt be kept up, and the Courage of their Troops muſt be ſupported; for Courage is a thing that cannot ſubſiſt without Neceſſary Proviſion; we may Talk of a Soldiers Living a Month on the ſmell of a Match, but I don't know which of Us will be brought to make the Experiment.

I ſhall not trouble my Head about the *Neceſſary Supplies*, and *Additional Troops*, to be ſent to the Earl of *Peterborough*, that's the proper Buſineſs of *Parliament*. But, *Roger*, you and I may wiſh that Noble Lord a good Reinforcement. We may wiſh him Sixteen or Eighteen Thouſand of our Bold *Britains*, that would Cut the way to the *Crown* of *Spain*. A leſſer Number may be ſufficient to do the Work, but *A greater Number is a leſs Charge*, and that by Reaſon of the Expedition. Is it not a greater Advantage to a Nation to maintain a Numerous Army for a few Years, and ſo put a ſpeedy end to the War, than to make weak Efforts with ſmall Numbers, linger on a War to the *Conſumption* of *Trade*, and tiring the Patience of the Subject?

The Affair of *Spain* is in ſo good a Poſture at preſent, that for my part I can find nothing wanting but a ſufficient Number of Hands to make a ſpeedy Reduction of that Monarchy, and the Charge of it will be amply made up to the *Engliſh* Nation upon the Settlement of that Kingdom.

We cannot well ſubſiſt without the *Trade* of *Spain*; which, at this time, is in a manner loſt, but will be recover'd with greater Advantage then formerly. I ſhan't look forward, and Propheſie, what Towns, what Fortreſſes and Iſlands will be annex'd to the Crown of *ENGLAND* for our great Charge and Expence in the War: But ſure I am our *Trade* with *Spain* will be Settled upon better Terms than before.

The *Kindneſs* of the *Queen* of *England*, in Delivering *Spain* from the Tyranny of *France* will never be forgotten; and it will be a means of Cultivating ſuch a good Underſtanding betwixt the *Spaniards* and *Engliſh*, That the whole *Trade* will fall into *Engliſh* Hands, and then, *Roger*, our Woollen Manufacture will begin to revive, and upon that ſingle Account is it not worth while to Pay Taxes, in order to raiſe more Men to be ſent to the Earl of *Peterborough*.

Country-m. Maſter, we are the moſt fooliſh People in the World if we don't Pay our Taxes with the greateſt Chearfulneſs imaginable, becauſe we Pay them for the beſt Ends and Purpoſes that can be. We Pay our *Money* to keep the *War* from Home, that's a Glorious Point gain'd, Maſter. We carry our *Corn* to the Market, Sell it there, bring Home the *Money*, and pay the *Queens Tax*. This they cant do in thoſe Countries that are the Seat of *War*; an *Enemy* of one ſort comes in the Morning takes away one half of the poor Farmers Moveables; another *Enemy* comes in the Afternoon and takes the reſt; for *Soldiers*, they ſay, eſteem all Farmers as *Anti-Chriſtians*; and to have *Cows*, *Hogs* and *Poultry* about ones Houſe, is a ſure ſign that a Mans a Heathen. Now, Maſter, don't we pay our *Money* well, to keep theſe Fighting People out of *England*, that are never well but when they are Beating our Folks Brains?

Maſter, if all Her Majeſties good Subjects will Conſent to it: I will pay Ten Shillings in the Pound this Year, and you and I won't Drink one Bottle the leſs of *October*. I am for mauling the *French Tyrant* till he's Dead, and after him all the Blood Thirſty *Tyrants* in the World. I'll part with any Money to deſtroy *Tyrants* and *Popery*, and to preſerve our Good *Queen*, and the *Liberties* of *England*.

Obſ. *Country-man*, thou bid'ſt very fair, 10*s.* in the Pound will amount to a power of Money. I foreſee Money will not be wanting; and as the People of *England* had never more Reaſon to do it, ſo I believe they were never known to pay their Taxes with more Cheerfulneſs than on the preſent Occaſions.

Country-m. Maſter, I have ſomething to ſay between you and I, that no Body muſt know a Word of.

Obſ. Whiſper then, and learn to be a Stateſman.

Country-m. Maſter, I am told that ſeveral *Nonjurors* have paid *Single*, who ought to have paid *Double Taxes*, and by this means Her Majeſties Taxes are diminiſhed. Now I would have a Review on this Account, but don't tell any Body of it!

Obſ. Why, Man, I think thou haſt propoſed very Honeſtly.

Country-m. Aye, but if the *Nonjurors* ſhould ſpeak to *their Brethren* the *Papiſts*, to ſpeak to ſome *Pope ſh Envoy* againſt you, then you know what.

Obſ. Prithee, *Roger*, let you and I mind our Buſineſs; love the Queen and Her Government, talk Honeſt Talk, do Honeſt Actions, keep within the Verge of the Law, and then we need not fear either *Papiſts* or *Pagans*.

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FOur New Sheet Almanacks. One with the Queens Head, and ſeveral Figures ſignifying ſome of Her Majeſties Inherent Vertues, viz. Wiſdom and Religion on Her Right Hand, Juſtice and Moderation on Her Left. Another Repreſenting the Battle of Hockſtedt and Blenheim, where Her Majeſties Forces, with thoſe of Her Allies, under the Command of JOHN Duke of Marlborough, obtained that Glorious Victory over the French and Bavarians. A Third with King WILLIAM's Head, and ſeveral other Figures; with His Character. All three finely Engrav'd on Copper Plates. To each of which are added, an Account of the Stage-Coaches and Carriers that come to London, where they Inn, and the Days of their going out. Price of each, finely Painted in Frames, 2*s.* in Sheets 1*s.* Unpainted in Frames, 1*s.* 6*d.* in Sheets 6*d.* The Fourth either with Queen ANN's, or King WILLIAM's Head, with other Figures, without the Stage Coaches and Carriers, Painted in Frames 1*s.* 6*d.* in Sheets 9*d.* Unpainted in Frames 1*s.* in Sheets 4*d.* All Sold by *Samuel Cope*, up one pair of Stairs at the *Cat* and *Rain-Bow*, in the *Poultry*. He alſo maketh and Selleth a Balſam that is a moſt certain, ſpeedy, and effectual Remedy in Curing Burns, Scalds, and all ſorts of Green Wounds, Sprains and Bruiſes. It will Univerſally overcome the moſt violent Inflamation, Fleſh and Blood is incident to, in one Hours time; which will prevent either Mortifications or Gangrenes, as many Hundreds, by their own Experience, can teſtifie. The Price is 2*s.* 6*d.* or 1*s.* the Bottle. He formerly lived at the Cat in St. Pauls Church-Yard, but now as aforeſaid.

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* She is Removed from the *Glaſs-Lanthorn* in *Plough-Yard*, to the *Golden-Ball*, in *Hand-Court*, over-againſt Great Turn Stile, in *Holbourn*.

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